

## Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 AGRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00  
COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-01 INR-10 INT-05 L-03  
LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 CTME-00 AID-05 SS-15  
STR-07 ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 SP-02 SOE-02 OMB-01  
DOE-11 HEW-04 OES-07 OIC-02 /128 W  
-----014952 081106Z /13

P 081032Z MAR 78  
FM USMISSION GENEVA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6910  
INFO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES  
AMEMBASSY ROME

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 01 OF 02 GENEVA 03613

USMTN

PASS STR AND AGRICULTURE  
STR PASS CODEL  
ROME PASS COSTIGAN

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: MTN, ETRD  
SUBJECT: US-ARGENTINE BILATERAL ON U.S. SANITARY  
RESTRICTIONS ON ARGENTINE BEEF EXPORTS

REF: A) GENEVA 2090, B) 77 STATE 213490, C) STATE 33056

1. AT ARGENTINE REQUEST (REF A), US DEL (KOENIG; SWAIN;  
RIESZ, FAS; COSTIGAN, APHIS; SEASTRUM, STR) MET MARCH 6  
WITH ARGENTINE DEL (RAIMONDI, MTN DEL; RABOSSA AND  
CANESSA, MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE; VICECONTE, ARGENTINE  
MEAT BOARD; BARTELITIS, PARIS EMBASSY) TO DISCUSS HEALTH  
AND SANITARY PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED BY ARGENTINA IN EX-  
PORTING BEEF TO THE U.S. AND TO EXPLORE WAYS TO SOLVE  
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THESE PROBLEMS BILATERALLY WITHIN MTN.

2. ARGENTINE DEL PLACED HIGH PRIORITY ON ACHIEVING  
THROUGH MTN A "PRAGMATIC FORMULA" TO PERMIT THE OPENING  
OF THE U.S. MARKET FOR (A) FRESH, CHILLED OR FROZEN  
CARCASS BEEF AND (B) CHILLED/FROZEN BONELESS BEEF CUTS  
THROUGH U.S. RECOGNITION OF AFTOSA FREE ZONES AND

ARGENTINE CONTROL MEASURES AND C) TO EXPAND EXPORTS OF FROZEN COOKED BEEF AND CANNED PREPARATIONS THROUGH MODIFICATION OF US SANITARY REGULATIONS TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT NEW ARGENTINE TECHNOLOGY. U.S. DEL NOTED THAT POINTS (A) AND (B) INCLUDING U.S. LEGISLATION ON FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE CONTROL WAS NOT AN APPROPRIATE SUBJECT FOR CONSIDERATION IN MTN BUT THAT (C) WAS SUITABLE TOPIC FOR DISCUSSION IN GROUP AGRICULTURE AND STANDARDS SUBGROUP.

3. DR. RABOSSA, DEPUTY HEAD OF ANIMAL HEALTH SERVICE, GAVE A DETAILED EXPLANATION OF ARGENTINA'S VETERINARY INSPECTION SYSTEM, THE CONTROL PROCEDURES FROM PRODUCTION THROUGH SLAUGHTER TO SHIPMENT, CONTAINING OUTBREAKS, AND MEASURES TO CONTROL LIVE ANIMAL AND CARCASS MOVEMENTS AND REQUESTED U.S. RECOGNIZE FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE FREE AREAS (SOUTH OF 42.5 DEGREE LATITUDE - CHUBUT, SANTA CRUZ AND TIERRA DEL FUEGO PROVINCES) TO PERMIT ENTRY OF FRESH, CHILLED OR FROZEN BEEF (CARCASSES AND CUTS) FROM SUCH AREAS, NOTING THAT THE EC HAD ALREADY DONE SO SINCE 1976. THE U.S. REITERATED OUR POSITION ON FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE (REFTEL B & C) AND CITED IN DETAIL THE CRITERIA UNDER U.S. LEGISLATION THAT HAS TO BE MET BEFORE U.S. CAN DECLARE TERRITORY FREE OF FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE (9 CFR 94 BASED ON SEC. 306; 19 U.S.C. 1306 AS AMENDED). A COPY OF THE FOREGOING WAS PROVIDED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ARGENTINE DEL AFTER THE MEETING.

4. ARGENTINE DEL EXPRESSED ITS DISAPPOINTMENT OVER THE "RIGID" LEGISLATION AND "OBVIOUS NEGATIVE RESPONSE" WHICH ALLOWED NO POSSIBILITY FOR MEANINGFUL RESOLUTION OF THIS KEY PROBLEM FOR ARGENTINA IN THE MTN. US DEL, RECOGNIZING ARGENTINA'S CONCERN OVER TRADE EFFECTS OF US LEGISLATION, REPLIED THAT STANDARDS PER SE WERE NOT NEGOTIABLE IN THE MTN AND FALL OUTSIDE SCOPE OF MTN. US DEL ADDED THAT PROPOSED STANDARDS CODE WOULD PROVIDE A FORUM FOR CONTINUED DISCUSSIONS WITHIN GATT BUT CITED APPROPRIATENESS OF CONTINUING BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS IN WASHINGTON AND BUENOS AIRES. US THEN OUTLINED IN DETAIL THE PROBLEMS AND RISKS INHERENT IN IMPORTING BONED CUTS IN CONTAINERS PREPARED AND EXPORTED UNDER THE SANITARY CONTROLS EXERCISED BY ARGENTINA IN THEIR SHIPMENTS TO THE U.K. ARGENTINE DEL HOPED THAT US WOULD NEVERTHELESS CONTEMPLATE ACCEPTING ARGENTINE RATIONALE AND GUARANTEES IN ELIMINATING RISK OF CONTAMINATION OF FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE AND STATED THAT THEY WOULD PRESS FOR EXAMINATION OF THE IMPLEMENTATION AND APPLICATION OF STANDARDS IN THE MEAT SUB-

GROUP.

5. DR. CANESSA, SPECIAL ADVISOR TO MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, THEN ADDRESSED TECHNICAL PROBLEM PREVENTING ARGENTINA FROM SHIPPING VARIOUS TYPES OF COOKED FROZEN MEAT AND COOKED CURED MEAT BECAUSE OF APHIS SIZE REQUIREMENTS FOR DETERMINING DEGREE OF COOKING, AND REQUESTED ADJUSTMENT OF APHIS REQUIREMENTS ON BASIS OF "NEW" TECHNOLOGY. ARGENTINA HAS DEVELOPED PROCESS TO OBTAIN SIZE RESTRICTION; I.E. PACK 5-6 KILO CONTAINERS WITH SMALLER SIZES AND ADD ONE PIECE OF REGULATION SIZE FOR DETERMINING WHETHER OR NOT MEAT IN WHOLE CONTAINERS MEETS U.S. COOKING REQUIREMENTS ACCORDING TO "PINK JUICE" TEST. THIS WOULD PROVIDE ARGENTINA THE OPPORTUNI-

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USMTN

PASS STR AND AGRICULTURE, STR PASS CODEL

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TY TO SELL A DIFFERENT TYPE OF MEAT (PRINCIPALLY GROUND MEAT FOR HAMBURGER AND SLICED CUTS). THE U.S. DEL STATED THAT THIS REQUEST FOR CHANGE IN PRACTICE TO MEAT A SANITARY REQUIREMENT WAS A LEGITIMATE MTN REQUEST AND URGED ARGENTINE DEL TO SUBMIT PROPOSAL IN WRITING FOR APHIS CONSIDERATION. THEY PROMISED TO DO SO THIS WEEK.

6. ON THIS MORE POSITIVE NOTE, THE MEETING WAS CON-  
CLUDED ON UNDERSTANDING THAT BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS  
SHOULD BE USEFULLY CONTINUED.
7. DRAFTED BY SWAIN. CULBERT

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Draft Date:** 08 mar 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**TAGS:** ETRD, US, AR, MTN  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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